

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**ScholarWorks @ UTRGV**

---

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers -  
Newsletters

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers

---

9-16-1985

## Newsletter - 1985-09-16

E. De la Garza

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.utrgv.edu/kikadelagarzanews>



Part of the [State and Local Government Law Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters, UTRGV Digital Library, The University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers at ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. For more information, please contact [justin.white@utrgv.edu](mailto:justin.white@utrgv.edu), [william.flores01@utrgv.edu](mailto:william.flores01@utrgv.edu).

# NEWSLETTER

99-1019

September 16, 1985

Washington DC

THE HISPANIC LEGACY TO AMERICAN AGRICULTURE. Americans consume astronomical amounts of oranges and orange juice each year. From where did the orange come? It came from Spain with the early Hispanic explorers of the 15th century.

The art of cattle ranching was introduced to the North American continent by Spaniards. And on the second voyage of Columbus in 1493 on behalf of the Spanish crown--he brought yearling calves, goats, sheep, hogs, hens--and seeds for oranges, limes, melons and assorted vegetables. The Spanish first used the branding iron to mark and identify livestock. Terms such as lasso, corral and rodeo were part of the Spanish lexicon.

With this in mind, the Congress authorized a National Hispanic Heritage Week--and once again, the President has proclaimed a week for this observance. It is September 16 through 21 of this year.

Agriculture--as most know--is a favorite subject of mine so I mention the Hispanic contribution quite proudly. There are, additionally, a variety of cultural contributions and accomplishments by contemporary Hispanics:

- o The Honorable Reynaldo Garza of Brownsville, the first Hispanic federal judge in the U S;
- o Dr Franklin Chang-Diaz, a plasma physics scientist from MIT, and the first Hispanic astronaut in the U S. He is slated to be a mission specialist on an upcoming Space Shuttle voyage; and
- o Marine Sergeant Freddy Gonzalez of Edinburg, a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, who gave his life in Vietnam.

I mention these three men because we tend to remember the "names in the news" and it should be noted that Hispanics are, in a quiet but forceful way, making contributions to American life that erect permanent markers on the nation's road of progress.

To highlight Hispanic Heritage Week, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus is sponsoring its annual gala dinner at the Washington Hilton Hotel on September 17. Mr and Mrs D V Guerra of Edinburg will be in Washington for the event, as well as Mr and Mrs Robert de la Garza of Hidalgo and Dr Hector Garcia of Corpus Christi (Dr Garcia is the founder of the American G-I Forum).

# # # # # # #



**—KIKI DE LA GARZA, 15TH DISTRICT, TEXAS—**

SOVIET DELEGATION VISITING U S CAPITOL. Having recently returned from a business trip to the Soviet Union at the invitation of its Presidium, your Congressman was invited to a dinner on September 11 in the U S Capitol to greet visiting Soviet dignitaries.

The dinner was held in the Speaker's Dining Room--and we were entertaining the Honorable Lev Nikolayevich Tolkunov, Chairman, Council of the Union, the USSR Supreme Soviet (their Parliament). Also attending were Yuriy Antoniyeovich Izrael, Chairman of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control; Oleg Anatol'yevich Krokhaev, First Secretary, USA Department, USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Mikhail Petrovich Shelepin, an official of the International Organizations Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The following day, September 12, we had a reception for the visiting Soviets in the Capitol during the late afternoon. This reception was arranged by Rep Claude Pepper and Senator Robert Stafford (who are the House and Senate leaders for the U S delegation to the just-concluded Interparliamentary Union meeting in Ottawa, Canada). The Russians named above are members of the Soviet IPU delegation to Ottawa.

And on the evening of September 12, we went to the USSR Embassy where another reception was held for the visiting dignitaries. This was done by the Soviet Embassy--and throughout the two days of activities, it gave us the opportunity to use the contacts as a prelude to our President's much awaited meeting with the Soviet Leader. Our hopes, as always, are that we will be able to coexist with the Soviets in a world of lessened tensions.

# # # # #

REMEMBERING MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DRIVE. During Hispanic Heritage Week, it is fitting to recall that on September 16, back in 1810, the Mexican people began a long haul struggle to secure independence for their nation and begin self government. It is the first truly "Mexican" national independence holiday, akin to our own Declaration of Independence from our original Europeansfounders.

We extend our best wishes to the Mexican government and the people of Mexico, and as they say on the eve of the 16th--Viva Mexico! Viva Hidalgo! Viva la Independencia!

# # # # #

SAVINGS BILL INTRODUCED. Last month, I jointly introduced with several of my House colleagues a legislative measure which would promote the U S Savings Bond program.

It is House Concurrent Resolution 182. It takes note that American taxpayers will save about \$2 billion in 1985 by utilizing the U S Savings Bond Program because the program helps reduce the cost of financing the national debt. Our measure urges Congress and the Treasury Department to more fully publicize the benefits of our Savings Bond Program.

# # # # #

VISITORS FROM SOUTH TEXAS. Mayor Jose M Yanez of Donna; Artilla Patton of Portland; Mr and Mrs Alan Roemer, Mr and Mrs Joe D Tackitt Jr--of Floresville; Pancho Averill of Laredo; Robert D Tumlinson of Odem; Nilda Quintanilla of McAllen; Jimmy F Sasser of Edinburg.

# # # # #